

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 772

By McNally

A RESOLUTION to recognize and commend Downtown Hardware Company for more than sixty years of service to the Oak Ridge community.

WHEREAS, it is the privilege of this General Assembly to recognize those historic Tennessee businesses that not only contribute to the economy but are also a part of the cultural fabric of this State; and

WHEREAS, one such entity is Downtown Hardware Company in Oak Ridge, a well-known and beloved establishment that will close its doors for good on February 29, 2020, after more than sixty-four years of hospitality and service to the people of Oak Ridge; and

WHEREAS, Downtown Hardware Company was established in 1955 by Tom Clary, Jr., and his business partners, Ed and Bernice Wayman and R.B. Wayman; the business was one of the first to set up shop in the Downtown Shopping Center, which is now Main Street Oak Ridge; and

WHEREAS, following the passing of Mr. Clary in 1981 and the subsequent retirement of the Waymans, the management of the store was taken over by Mr. Clary's children, Roger Clary and Ann Clary Bratton, who have continued to oversee the operation of the family business; and

WHEREAS, in 1999, Downtown Hardware Company moved from Wilson Street to its current location at 298 South Illinois Avenue; and

WHEREAS, for more than six decades, Downtown Hardware Company has taken pride in its focus on exceptional customer service and attention to detail; many young people in the community have gained valuable work experience and practical life skills through employment at this fine institution; and

WHEREAS, it is most fitting that we recognize and honor this successful small business and its owners on this momentous occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we recognize and commend Downtown Hardware Company and owners Roger Clary and Ann Clary Bratton for their many years of service to the Oak Ridge community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.